GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2067
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
COASTAL SECURITY
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently convened a meeting to discuss the issue of coastal security in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to keep a close watch on the maritime borders in the country which are having constant security threats?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) to (c): The 24th meeting of the Southern Zonal Council was held at Hyderabad on 12.02.2007 where issues relating to internal security, coastal security etc., were discussed. A scheme for providing assistance to the coastal States and UTs to enhance infrastructure for patrolling and surveillance of the coastal areas is under implementation from the year 2005-06. The scheme has an outlay of Rs. 400 crore for non-recurring expenditure and Rs.151 crore for recurring expenditure for 5 years.

A meeting was also held at Chennai on 31.07.2006 to review security measures in Indian Ports. The major ports and some non-major ports in the country have implemented the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) and monitor the ships that call at these ports. Besides, the Coast Guard ships and aircrafts keep a close watch along the International Maritime Boundary Line by regular patrolling.